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LOCAL NOTICES.

Joseph Horne & Co.,

Importers and Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Straw Goods, Ribbons, Notions, Trimming and Hosiery, Nos. 77 and 79 Market street, Pittsburgh, Pa. MWS

Wet

Sheeting Muslin, a bargain, at Barker's.

A Happy Family

Is always secured when one of Singer's Sewing Machines is introduced. It is the boast and pride of American ladies. Straw & Morton, agents, corner St. Clair and Penn streets.

Messrs. Bates & Bell,

No. 21 Fifth street, are offering unusual inducements. They have the choicest assortment of Imported and Domestic Dry Goods in the city. Heads of families will find this the best dry goods house in the city. Call and examine stock.

The Portable Pipe Organ.

We were shown in the Salesroom of the enterprising Music Dealers, Messrs. Hammer & Sturge, No. 56 Seventh street, a wonderful musical instrument—the Portable Pipe Organ. The most eminent musical authorities in America have pronounced the Pipe Organ unrivaled by any instrument of sustained sound ever before offered the public. The candid mind can but echo this verdict. Its advantages may be thus summed up: It gives you the genuine pipe tone—is a pipe organ in portable shape; can be purchased for one-half the cost of the organ built on the old plan; and to take up no more room than what is now called Parlor Organs, which are but reed sounds, and cannot of course be so pure. They are adapted to a wider range of music than the piano, making them the most desirable parlor instrument extant; they are the best ever invented for accompanying the voice and using in combination with piano, harp or violin, the quickness of speech, easy and graceful modulation, rich and powerful tone, giving double the amount of music for one-half the cost of any other instrument.

We would advise all who are in want of such an instrument, not to forget the Pair or Pipe Organs, for which Messrs. Hammer & Sturge are the sole agents for Western Pennsylvania, Northwestern Virginia and Eastern Ohio.

Soucy, on Wylie Street,

No. 168, *near Elm street*, offers splendid bargains in Dry Goods. His stock is unsurpassed, and hundreds are daily taking advantage of the rare bargains *only to be obtained at Soucy's*. Ladies and housekeeper's consult your interests and deal with the cheapest dry goods mercenary in the city—Soucy, No. 168 Wylie, *near Elm street*.

Fine Grates,

Summer Fronts and Fenders, for sale at very low rates by Bissell & Co., No. 235 Liberty street. SMW

Cheapest Place.

That is the place to buy, and that place is McClarran & McKennan's Drug Store, 85 Market street, corner Diamond, near Fifth street.

DR. AIKEN'S OFFICE, 134 Smithfield street. tf

See

The beautiful 12½ cent Shirting Muslin at Barker's.

Patent Medicine Depot,

McClarran & McKennan's Drug Store, 85 Market street, corner Diamond, near Fifth street.

Hall's Hair Renewer

Sold at the lowest rates at Fleming's Drug Store, No. 84 Market street.

Hot Air Furnaces

And Hot Air Registers, best quality, for sale by Bissell & Co. 235 Liberty street. SMW

Remember

That you can buy cheaper at McClarran & McKennan's Drug Store than at any other house in the city.

Linen Toweling,

A little wet, cheap, at Barker's.

Dry Goods at Wholesale.

We are offering full lines of Bleached and Brown Muslins, Prints, Ticks, Ginghams, and other staple goods, making the largest stock in the West, and at less than Eastern prices. J. W. Barker & Co., No. 59 Market street. tf

Trunks, Trunks,

At John Bell's No. 35 Market street, three doors from Second street.

Parlor Stoves,

Heating Stoves, Laundry Stoves, Cook Stoves, Grate Fronts, Fenders, Summer Fronts, &c., for sale by Bissell & Co., 235 Liberty street. SMW

Great Bargains

In slightly wet Table Linen at Barker's.

For a Fine Article,

Go to McClarran & McKennan's Drug Store.

Leaf Tobacco,

Havana, Yara, Connecticut, New York State, at New York prices, branch sales and Agency at Allen 172 Water street, New York. Daniel F. Diman, 75 Water street, Pittsburgh.

The Celebrated

Triumph Cook Stove, for coal, for sale by Bissell & Co., 235 Liberty street. SMW

The Daily Commercial

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The Minnesota House of Representatives have passed a bill leaving capital punishment for murder at the discretion of the jury.

Repeal meetings continue to be held in different parts of Nova Scotia.

Four stores on Genesee street, Utica, New York, occupied by J. F. Griffith, boots and shoes; S. F. Hanna, card engraver; Buckingham & Miller, fancy goods, were burned Monday night. Loss about $40,000, mostly covered by insurance.

Advices from Nicaragua announce the failure of W. H. Webb's negotiations for the new transit through that country, on agreeing to pay the twenty thousand dollars due from the old Central American Transit Company. Mr. Webb demanded the exclusive privilege of using the transit, which was refused. This ends the Nicaragua transit as no one will pay the twenty thousand dollars due.

The name of General G. B. McClellan is mentioned for the mission to England.

Official letters received from Madrid show a misunderstanding between Mr. Hale, Minister of Spain, and his Secretary of Legation, Mr. Perry, and it is said that the former will come home unless Mr. Perry is recalled.

A fire broke out in the Bank of Montreal, Kingston, Monday evening, but was extinguished after vigorous exertions by the firemen. The building is greatly damaged throughout its entire extent by smoke and water. Two women, servants, were nearly suffocated.

The removal of the Capitol of the State of California from Sacramento to a more suitable locality, is being discussed by the Legislature. San Jose offers the State the use of the Court House free for five years, and will grant several acres of land for the erection of the capitol building. They have invited the members of the Legislature to visit the place at the expense of its citizens. The invitation was accepted, and the Legislature adjourned over two days for that purpose.

The Cleveland, Ohio, Paper Company's mill was damaged by fire about $30,000 yesterday morning. Loss covered by insurance.

The defalcation in the American Exchange Bank of New York proves to be $60,000. It is not likely that Vulte, Assistant Cashier, the defaulter, will be prosecuted.

A woolen factory at Peru, Indiana, was destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. Loss $50,000, fully insured. This was the largest factory in Indiana. Messrs. Stern were the proprietors.

The New York Assembly yesterday requested Senators and Representatives in Congress to pass some law providing for the employment of disabled soldiers and sailors in custom houses, light houses, arsenals and dock yards.

The elegant mansion of Edward N. Perkins, at Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, with a portion of the furniture and costly paintings, were destroyed by fire Monday night. Loss $70,000; partially insured.

The steamer City of Paris, from Liverpool on the 29th, and Queenstown on the 30th, arrived at New York last night.

Prof. Richardson, of the University of Rochester, N. Y., died yesterday.

New York revenue officers on Monday made seizures of the spirits and rectifying establishments of S. C. Boehm & Co. and F. E. Sanderson, in Boston. Subsequently, on complaint of Sanderson, Inspector Conally was arrested on a writ issued by the Superior Court of Massachusetts. Application was at once made for a writ of *habeas corpus*, and Conally was brought before the Chief Justice and soon discharged. Proceedings have already been taken for the arrest and prosecution of Sanderson on a charge of perjury. Action was also taken against him to recover damages for false imprisonment.

The Erie and Niagara Extension bill was passed to a second reading in the Assembly of Ontario yesterday.

David Knapp, of Milwaukee, was garroted on Lock street, Buffalo, last night, and robbed of a watch. Before the garotter could get at Knapp's money, a patrolman captured him.

The revenue cutter Nemaha was destroyed by fire on Friday morning, while off Cuycomico river, Va. Two of the crew were drowned.

President Cabral, of St. Domingo, has fallen from power and abandoned the Capitol. Gen. Hungria has assumed the reins of government.

Many Mexicans have arrived in Havana from France.

CANTON, OHIO.

A Furniture Firm Make an Assignment ---Liabilities $25,000.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CANTON, February 11, 1868.

S. S. Miller & Co., furniture dealers, made an assignment yesterday to Jacob Miller. Liabilities about twenty-five thousand dollars.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. V. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 12, 1868. NO. 129.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

THE CAPITAL.

THE IMPEACHMENT INVESTIGATION

McArdle Case to be Discussed.

Democratic National Convention.

Ratification of Southern Constitutions.

The Deposit of Government Funds.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C. February 11, 1868.

The Impeachment Project.

The Reconstruction Committee had a full meeting to-day and finished the examination of the *World* correspondent, relative to the Johnson-Grant correspondence. The correspondent, under protest, handed to the Committee a memorandum of the proceedings of the Cabinet in relation to the reinstatement of Mr. Stanton in the War Office. The Committee then adjourned until Thursday next, Mr. Stevens protesting and advocating the immediate introduction of a resolution to impeach the President. No other member of the Committee seemed to favor it. The memorandum alluded to is substantially the same as that submitted in the letters of the Cabinet Ministers to the President, and by the latter transmitted this day to Congress.

The McArdle Case.

The *Star* says that it is learned on good authority that the Supreme Court is unanimous in favor of dismissing the McArdle case on the same ground as they disposed of the Mississippi and Georgia cases—want of jurisdiction. It is understood this decision was reached last Saturday, the regular conference day of the Court, and the opinion would have been delivered yesterday had there been time to prepare it.

Democratic Convention.

The National Democratic Executive Committee, Hon. August Belmont, chairman, have engaged rooms for their meeting on the 22d inst. to select the time and place for holding the next Democratic Convention.

Nomination Rejected,

In executive session to-day, the Senate rejected the nomination of Leslie Coombs as United States Marshal of Kentucky. There were very few Republicans in his favor. The nomination of S. S. Cox as Minister to Austria was taken up, but no action was had. Ben. Wade opposed him very bitterly, and the case was postponed until to-morrow.

Adoption of Southern Constitutions.

Congress is waiting for official information of the defeat of the Alabama Constitution before taking up the bill to make a majority of the votes cast sufficient to ratify a State Constitution. This will promptly be done as soon as the result in Alabama is known.

Government Deposits.

The Senate Finance Committee have agreed to report the House bill that hereafter no Government money shall be deposited in a National Bank in any city which has a sub-treasury. Mr. Sherman is opposed to it. A strong protest against it comes from the National Banks.

Kentucky Senator.

News comes here that Governor Stevenson will be chosen Senator from Kentucky in place of Guthrie, resigned.

HARRISBURG.

New General Fee Bill Introduced.

Extension of Pittsburgh Water Works.

Heavy Reward for a Murderer

Passage of the Oil Inspection Bill.

Monongahela Valley Railroad Bill.

Selection of the Route of the Road.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 11, 1868.

SENATE.

Petitions.

By Mr. Errett, of Allegheny—From seven hundred miners of Allegheny county for change in the law as to coal screens.

By Mr. Taylor, of Beaver—One to prevent fishing with seines in Beaver county.

Also, one for the repeal of the act extending the limits of Beaver borough.

Bills Introduced.

Mr. Cowles, of McKean—A general fee bill, being the same as passed by the House last winter.

Mr. Errett, of Allegheny, authorizing the city of Pittsburgh to borrow one million of dollars for improving and extending the water works.

Also, one exempting Allegheny county from the provisions of the act of May 3, 1866, compelling railroad companies and other corporations to pay counsel fees of plaintiffs in certain cases.

Mr. Fisher, of Lancaster, a general pension law for all soldiers of 1812 and widows not worth over five hundred dollars.

Reward for a Murderer.

Mr. Fisher, of Lancaster, offered the following joint resolution:

WHEREAS, During the hearing of evidence in the case of J. K. Robison against Samuel T. Shugarty, one of the sitting members of the Senate from the Twenty-first Senatorial District, a certain John Casey was examined as a witness on behalf of said J. K. Robison, contestant, and said Casey, after examination, was waylaid in the county of Clearfield and so abused that he has since died,

Resolved, That the Governor be and is hereby authorized and required to offer a reward of two thousand dollars for such information as will lead to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons committing said offense, and that the Treasurer of the Commonwealth be authorized and required to pay the said sum. Passed finally.

Mr. Fisher said that three persons had been arrested but were discharged yesterday on *habeas corpus*. The principal was still at large. Mr. Wallace of Clearfield, said the crime was an infamous one.

Mr. Connell, of Philadelphia—Bill prohibiting Courts from changing the names of corporations.

Mr. McConaughy, of Adams—A joint resolution urging Congress to protect American artists by a heavier tariff on foreign pictures and artist's materials. Passed finally.

The petroleum and oil inspection bill was considered.

Mr. Errett moved to amend by confirming sales after condemnation solely for redistillation or export. Adopted.

Mr. Searight moved to amend by reducing the term of inspector from four to three years. Adopted, and the bill passed finally substantially as agreed upon by Committee.

Bills Passed Finally.

At the evening session the following bills passed finally:

Authorizing Rochester borough, Beaver county, to borrow $3,500 for enlarging a school house.

Relative to election precincts in Allegheny county.

Extending to Mount Washington, Allegheny county, the vehicle license law of 1860.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Bills Passed Finally.

Prohibiting the hunting of game in Findlay, Robinson and Scott townships, Allegheny county.

Punishing destruction or injury of graperies, fountains, &c., in Beaver county.

Repealing the incorporation of the Gettysburg Asylum for Invalid Soldiers.

Increasing fees of Justices and Constables in Armstrong county to the amounts named in the act of 1865.

The Monongahela Valley Railroad.

A bill authorizing the Monongahela Valley Railroad to build a road from Pittsburgh to Monongahela City by whatever route a majority of the Directors may determine; thence to Rice's Landing and to extend the main line to West Virginia.

Mr. Ford, of Allegheny, moved an amendment confining the route to the banks of the Monongahela river.

Messrs. Wilson, of Allegheny, and Playford, of Fayette, spoke for the amendment, and Ewing and Day, of Washington opposed. The amendment was defeated. Laid over for third reading.

Adjourned till evening.

EVENING SESSION.—Mr. Hickman's Constitutional amendments were debated till very late, the lobbies being crowded. The imposition of a majority of the Republicans is to indefinitely postpone the question.

At a quarter past eleven o'clock the question was postponed until Tuesday evening and made the special order. The pending motion of Strang, of Tioga, was to recommit it to the Judiciary Committee with instructions to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to call a Constitutional Convention.

Mr. Hickman was very severe on Republicans who had opposed his amendments, calling it dodging, murder, inconsistency, &c.

GRANT---JOHNSON.

The President's Last Letter.

Statements of Members of Cabinet.

Letters from Welles, McCulloch, Randall, Browning and Seward.

GEN. GRANT'S REPLY.

He Denies Insubordination.

WASHINGTON, February 11, 1868.

The President this afternoon sent the following letters to the House of Representatives, in accordance with the resolution adopted yesterday:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, February 10, 1868.

GENERAL:—The extraordinary character of your letter of the 3d inst. would seem to preclude any reply on my part, but the manner in which publicity has been given to the correspondence of which that letter forms a part, and the grave questions which are involved, induce me to take this mode of giving as a proper sequel to the communications which have passed between us, the statements of the five members of the Cabinet, who were present on the occasion of our conversation on the 14th ult. Copies of the letters which they have added to me upon the subject are accordingly herewith enclosed.

You speak of my letter of the 1st ult., as a reiterative of the many and gross misrepresentations contained in certain newspaper articles, and reassert the corrections of the statements contained in your communication of the 28th ult., adding, and here I give your own words, "anything in yours in reply to it to the contrary notwithstanding."

When a controversy upon matters of fact reaches the point to which this has been brought, further assertion or denial between the immediate parties should cease, especially when upon either side it loses the character of the respectful discussion which is required by the relations in which the parties stand to each other, and degenerates in tone and temper. In such a case, if there is nothing to rely upon but the opposing statements, conclusions must be drawn from those statements alone, and from whatever intrinsic probability they afford in favor of or against either of the parties. I should not shrink from the controversy, but fortunately it is not left to this test alone. There were five Cabinet officers present at the conversation, the details of which were given in my letter of the 28th ult., which you allow yourself to say, consignation to the gross misrepresentations. These gentlemen heard that conversation, and have read my statement. They speak for themselves, and I leave the proof without a word of comment.

I deem it proper before concluding this communication, to notice some of the statements contained in your letter. You say that a performance of the promises alleged to have been made by you to the President, would have involved "a resistance to law and an inconsistency with the whole history of my connection with the suspension of Mr. Stanton." You then state that you had fears the President would, on the reassembling of Congress, point some one in his place who would embarrass the army in carrying out the reconstruction acts, and add, "it was to prevent such an appointment that I accepted the office of Secretary of War *ad interim*, with the purpose of enabling you to get rid of Mr. Stanton by my withholding it from him in opposition to the law, or, not doing so myself, surrendering it to one who would, as the statements and assumptions in your communication plainly indicate, it was sought."

First of all you here admit that from the very beginning of what you term your whole history of my connection with Mr. Stanton in the suspension, you intended to circumvent the President. It was to carry out that intent that you accepted the appointment. This was in your mind at the time of your acceptance. It was not then in obedience to the wishes or order of your superior, as has heretofore been supposed, that you assumed the duties of the office. You knew it was the President's purpose to prevent Mr. Stanton from resuming the office of Secretary of War, and you undertook to defeat that purpose. You accepted the office, not in the interest of the President, but of Mr. Stanton. If this purpose, so entertained by you, had been confined to yourself, if, when accepting the office, you had done so with a mental reservation to frustrate the wishes of President, it would have been a deception. In the ethics of some persons such a course is allowable; but you cannot stand upon that ground. You place it upon honorable ground. The history of your connection with the transaction, as written by yourself, places you in a different predicament, and shows that you not only concealed your design from the President, but induced him to suppose that you would carry out his purpose to keep Mr. Stanton out of office by retaining it yourself after an attempted restoration by the Senate, so as to require Mr. Stanton to establish his right by judicial decision.

I now give that part of this history as written by yourself in your letter of the 28th ult.:

"Some time after I assumed the duties of Secretary of War *ad interim*, the President asked my views as to the course Mr. Stanton would pursue in case the Senate should not concur in his suspension, which he knew I had opposed. My reply was, in substance, that Mr. Stanton would have no appeal to the courts for relief, his contesting my position by citing the ground I had taken in the case of the Baltimore Police Commissioners.

No one, at that time, you did not in your letter of the 5d inst., you held the office for the very object of defeating an appeal to the Courts. In that letter you say that in accepting the office, one motive was to prevent the President from appointing some other person who would retain possession, and to avoid the judicial proceedings necessary. You knew the President was unwilling to trust the office with any one who could not, by holding it, compel Mr. Stanton to resort to the Courts. You perfectly understood that in this interview, some time after you accepted the office, the President, not content with your silence, desired an expression of your views, and you answered him that Mr. Stanton would have no appeal to the Courts. If the President had reposed confidence before he knew your views, and that confidence had been violated, it might have been said that he made a mistake; but a violation of confidence reposed after that conversation was no mistake of his or yours. It is the fact only that tends to be stated that at the date of this conversation, you, of full time, had accepted office with the purpose of forcing Mr. Stanton into Court, but did hold it then and had accepted it, to prevent the course from being carried out. In the words, you said to the President, that is the proper course, and you said it to yourself, "I have accepted this office and now hold it to defeat that course."

The excuse you make in a subsequent paragraph of that letter of the 28th ult., that afterwards you changed your views as to what would be a proper course, has nothing to do with the point now under consideration. The point is, that before you changed your views, you had secretly determined to do the very thing which at last you announce—enter the office of Mr. Stanton. You may have changed your views as to the law, but you certainly did not change your views as to the course you had marked out for yourself from the beginning.

I will only notice one other statement in your letter of the 3d inst., that the performance of the promises which it is alleged were made by you, would have involved you in the resistance of law. I know of no statute that would have been violated, had you carried out your promises in good faith, and tendered your resignation when you concluded not to be made a party in any legal proceedings. You add, "I am in a manner confirmed in this conclusion by your recent orders, directing me to disregard orders from the Secretary of War, my superior and your subordinate. Without having countermanded his authority to issue orders I am to disregard them."

On the 24th ult., you addressed a note to the President, requesting in writing an order given to you verbally five days before, to disregard orders from Mr. Stanton as Secretary of War, until you learned from the President himself that they were his orders. On the 26th, in compliance with your request, I did give you instructions in writing not to obey any order from the War Department assumed to be issued by the direction of the President, unless such order is known by the General commanding the armies of the United States to have been authorized by the Executive.

There are some orders which a Secretary of War may issue without the authority of the President; there are others which he issues simply as the agent of the President, and which purport to be by direction of the President. For such orders the President is responsible, and he should therefore know and understand what they are before giving such direction.

Mr. Stanton, in his letter of the 4th inst., which accompanies the published correspondence with the President since the 12th of August last, further says that since he resumed the duties of the office, he has continued to discharge them without any personal or written communication with the President, and he adds "no orders have been issued from this Department in the name of the President with my knowledge, and I have received no orders from him." It thus seems that Mr. Stanton now discharges the duties of the War Department without any reference to the President, and without using his name. My order to you had only reference to orders issued in the name of the President. It would appear from Mr. Stanton's letter that you have received no such orders from him.

In your note to the President of the 26th ult., in which you acknowledge the receipt of the written order of the 26th, you say that you have been informed by Mr. Stanton that he has not received any order limiting his authority to issue orders to the army according to the practice of the Department, and that the War Department is not this authority to the War Department to be countermanded, it will be satisfactory evidence to me that any orders issued from the War Department by direction of the President are authorized by the Executive." The President issues an order to you to obey no order from the War Department purporting to be made by direction of the President until you have referred it to him for approval. You reply you have received the President's order and will not obey it, but will obey an order purporting to be given by his direction, if it comes from the War Department. You will obey no direct order of the President, but will obey his indirect order. If, as you say, there has been a practice in the War Department to issue orders in the name of the President, without his direction, does not the precise order you have requested and have received, change the practice as to the General of the army? Could not the President countermand any such order issued in the name of the President to do a special act, and an order directly from the President himself not to do the act? Is there a doubt which you are to obey? You answer the question when you say to the President in your letter of the 3d inst., "the Secretary of War is my superior and your subordinate," and yet you refuse obedience to the superior out of deference to the subordinate.

Without further comment on the insubordinate attitude which you have assumed, I am at a loss to know how you can relieve yourself from the orders of the President, who is made by the constitution the Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy, and is therefore the official superior as well of the General of the army as of the Secretary of War.

Respectfully, yours,

ANDREW JOHNSON.

General U. S. Grant, Commanding Armies of the United States, Washington, D. C.

The letter of the President is accompanied by letters from the Secretaries of the Navy, Treasury, Interior, State, and Postmaster General, supporting his positions.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, D. C., February 5, 1868.

SIR: The *Chronicle* of this morning contains a correspondence between the President and General Grant, reported from the War Department in answer to a resolution of the House of Representatives. I beg to call your attention to that correspondence, and especially to that part of it which refers to the conversation between the President and General Grant at the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday, the 14th ult. January, and to request you to state what was said in that conversation.

Very respectfully, yours,

ANDREW JOHNSON.

WASHINGTON, February 5, 1868.

SIR:—Your note of this date was handed to me this evening. My recollection of the conversation at the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday, the 14th of January, corresponds with your statement of it in the letter of the 31st ult., as the published correspondence. The three points specified in that letter, giving your recollection of the conversation, are correctly stated. Very respectfully,

GIDEON WELLES.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, February 6, 1868.

SIR: I have received your note of the 5th inst., calling my attention to the correspondence between yourself and General Grant, as published in the *Chronicle* of yesterday, especially to that part of it which relates to what occurred in the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday, the 14th ult., and requesting me to state what was said in the conversation referred to. I cannot undertake to state the precise language used, but I have no hesitation in saying your account of that conversation, as given in your letter to General Grant on the 31st ult., substantially in all important particulars accords with my recollection of it.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

HUGH MCCULLOCH.

To the President.

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, February 6th, 1868.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 5th of February, calling my attention to the correspondence published in the *Chronicle* between the President and General Grant, and especially to that part of it which refers to the conversation between the President and General Grant at the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday, the 14th of January, with a request that I state what was said in that conversation. In reply, I have the honor to state that I have read carefully the correspondence in questions and particularly the letter of the President to General Grant of date January 31, 1868. The following extract from your letter of the 31st of January to General Grant, is according to my recollection of the correspondence that took place between the President and General Grant:

"At the Cabinet meeting on the 14th of January last in the presence of the Cabinet, the President asked General Grant whether, in consenting to act, he took place after his appointment as Secretary of War *ad interim*, he did not agree to either vacate the office at the head of the War Department and abide any judicial proceeding that might follow the non-concurrence of the Senate in Mr. Stanton's suspension, or words to which no to become involved in such controversy, or to that effect. General Grant replied that the question with respect to the office as he accepted it was fully considered at the time of accepting it, and assuring it to the President in time to anticipate such action by the Senate. This General Grant affirmed. I then expressed a regret that the appointment as the conference on the preceding Saturday, he had not, to my understanding, authorized me to inform Grant to state what he intended to do, and further, if it is reply to that inquiry he (General Grant) had replied that he would not surrender the office, and that from this in the President understood his not to be inconsistent with the understanding which had been reached. To these questions General Grant replied in the affirmative.

The President asked General Grant if, at the conclusion of their interview on Saturday, he had the understanding that they were to have another conference on Monday. To this he replied by the statement in the case of Mr. Stanton. General Grant replied that such was the understanding, but that on further reflection he was not sure. The President then asked if General Sherman had not called

The Daily Commercial

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1868.

THE COMMERCIAL *is the largest daily paper in the State, and gives daily one-fourth more reading than any other paper in Pittsburgh. It is the only Pittsburgh paper that uses the telegraph liberally gives full market reports, and all the news of the day.*

As proof of the estimate placed on the market reports of the COMMERCIAL, *we will state that they are regularly copied by the New York Economist, Shipping List, Iron Age, and other papers of this character in that and other cities, and that leading English commercial papers and circulars regularly reprint them with credit. There is within five hundred miles, hardly an Iron Factory, Oil Refinery, or leading manufactory of any kind that is not a subscriber to the* COMMERCIAL, *principally, because its reports are the only full and reliable given of the Pittsburgh markets.*

MR. JOHNSON has delivered his broadside,—in other words, has replied to GRANT. His letter and letters from Secretaries WELLES, MCCULLOCH, BROWNING, SEWARD and Postmaster General RANDALL, in a general way supporting the assertions of the President, were read in the House of Representatives yesterday. A rejoinder from GRANT is expected today.

THE Railroad Committee of the Senate have agreed upon certain amendments to the Free Railroad bill; and in that shape, we understand, the bill will be supported by the Free Railroad men in the Legislature. It requires four thousand dollars per mile to be subscribed, and authorizes the issue of bonds equal to the amount of the stock subscribed. If passed in this shape, the bill will be a fulfillment of the pledges made by the Republican party to the people.

RAILROAD POLICY.

[From the Philadelphia North American and Gazette.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL has something to say to Philadelphia. It very often does, though not always in the best temper, nor with much discretion. The COMMERCIAL is by no means ignorant about our railway affairs. We have read the Pittsburgh papers carefully for a long time, to see what they proposed by way of a change, but with sore disappointment. They have a notion of consolidation which is one of the acknowledged evils—no remedy for the injury done to both our interests. Yet under the circumstances, Pittsburgh is right that we quiet, thoughtful, prudent Philadelphians do not do something desperate either to break our own heads or some one else's. We beg to observe to the COMMERCIAL, and to all in Pittsburgh who agree with it, that we have our own way here in Philadelphia of doing things. It is founded on long experience and close observation of the means essential to success, and while it may not agree with the notions that prevail in Pittsburgh or the west, we prefer it, and shall adhere to it.

If we were to admit all that the COMMERCIAL says about the Pennsylvania Railroad having made Philadelphia a mere way station between New York and the West, the natural inquiry would be, how shall we remedy it? shall we benefit our trade by trumpeting such a state of affairs all over the land? The Pittsburgh idea, of course, is that by "pitching in" we should compel a change of policy. We have no such belief. In fact we think that we are doing what would produce no effect. But if we look for an alternative we find that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad divides to the same charges exactly. Pittsburgh may not happen to know it. We, however, do. Our merchants were formerly in the habit of doing a profitable business by that route, but it has been mostly arrested by the insane New York mania that has seized all our great railroad companies. The Atlantic and Great Western combination was intended chiefly as a tributary of New York, and the only consideration that made it tolerable to us at first was the hope that a direct railroad law is proposed by some as the remedy, and we shall have such an enactment. But when we see men with tens of millions to build competing railroads are not met with every day, and if they should be, we confess that we do not see how the Pennsylvania Railroad does not encourage us to place much reliance in them.

This great highway is our own, built with our money, by our own men, managed by Philadelphians, intended exclusively for our benefit. If we cannot trust such a railway, pray whom can we trust? Do we not owe all our present commercial activity to this company? Did not the Atlantic and Great Western first commence running to the West of New York before our Company got to Venango? Did not the programme entirely change in favor of the advent of the Philadelphia and Erie line in the oil region? Has not the Pennsylvania Railroad proved to the only connection we possess with the bituminous coal region of Western Pennsylvania. Has not the same road given us almost all the facilities we possess of reaching the lake trade at Erie, Cleveland and Chicago. To not this route the only one in which we have any positive interest, or by which we have any chance whatever of obtaining western trade?

Pittsburgh may not know these facts, but Philadelphia does, and it is a question whether it is not

"Better to be the life we know
Than fly to others we know not of."

But let us here observe that our city does not undertake an obstinate fight upon the Pennsylvania Railroad, because a large and influential portion of our business men regard it as all right. Some of the Philadelphia Board of Trade stands up for it resolutely. These men are merchants, and they learn from their own knowledge and experience as to whether the railroad company is for or against them. They say that it is still managed in our interest, and they ought to know. Besides which a great many concerns that we respectfully pause. We are not merchants. We publish a newspaper. We do not ship goods to the West, or receive them, and have no fuss with the railroad policy. All we can do is to submit.

If it is entirely true, as the COMMERCIAL intimates what we think, let us ask what Pittsburgh has gained by losing Philadelphia's trade? Her coal is deservedly in demand. Yet neither New York nor Baltimore has ever considered it worth while to make a separate railroad connection with her. Three Railroads to Philadelphia, and a Chestnut street Row, are monuments of the neglect of Baltimore, and there stands on the Atlantic coast, to-day, to attest the contemptuous neglect of New York. On the contrary, we think we are preparing thoroughly for what we do is much the better.

It so seldom happens that a Philadelphia paper discusses "Railroad Policy," that we give the above the benefit of our circulation. As an admission of all we said about the Pennsylvania Central making Philadelphia "a mere way station between New York and the west," and as a plea for submission to its policy in this respect, we think most of readers will agree that it is an amusing specimen. In the article to which the above is an answer, we called attention to the fact that goods were shipped westward over the Central from points east of her cheaper than from Philadelphia; that a corresponding discrimination existed against that city in shipments from the west; and that in view of such facts, what both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh needed was railroad competition, for obtaining which, the restoration of the charter of the Connellsville road afforded a favorable opportunity. We furthermore briefly enforced this policy on Philadelphia by referring to the manifold advantages which New York derives from her railroad and canal lines, all competing for the inland commerce of the country, whereby solely foreign commerce can be created and supported. Now we suggest that these considerations were worthy of treatment different from that which they have received in the above. We gave no invitation to "pitch in;" and if we had done so, in reply to the inquiry, what has Pittsburgh gained by what our contemporary is pleased to style "pitching in," we might refer him to the fact that at this very moment we are rejoicing in the restoration of the Connellsville charter, and the almost certainty of an early opening upthere by of an extensive region of the State, to be made tributary to our city; and another avenue to tide-water—not for ourselves alone, but the Great West. This we have gained, and we respectfully ask, to what but "pitching in,"—in other words, persistent effort—is this and the prospect of a Free Railroad Law—to which reference is made with so much hopefulness—due? And we ask, too, how much has Philadelphia contributed to this result? She has always opposed both the Connellsville and Free Railroad Law. As for the Allegheny Valley Road, so far from it being an object of "contemptuous neglect," it is the only independent road in the State that has in many years made any progress,—and we will remark that our contemporary knows very little of its real progress; or, knowing very well about it, the writer is not disposed to admit the facts concerning it.

But the oil regions,—has not the Central made Philadelphia the recipient of the oil of Venango? And what more can she ask? How unreasonable to ask more, says our contemporary, who seems to think that oil and Venango are the beginning and ending of the internal commerce of the country.

We are told that the products of the Venango oil region have been brought to Philadelphia's door, and that for this valuable trade many thanks are due to the Pennsylvania Central. Presuming that the writer and many others are resting under the belief that Philadelphia has a monopoly of the oil trade, and that she ought to regard it as a sufficient recompense for the admitted injurious policy which the Central has pursued in transferring its base and principal business from Philadelphia to New York, we beg leave to submit some facts. Most of them are presumed to be new to our contemporary, and we hope that they will not escape the attention which they deserve to receive, particularly in Philadelphia.

First, then, what is Philadelphia's share in the trade of the Venango oil region, and how much of it is due to special efforts on the part of the Pennsylvania Central?

By referring to tables and figures relating to the subject we find that the whole amount of petroleum forwarded East over the Pennsylvania Railroad during the year 67, from Pittsburgh and Kiskeminitas action, was 580,556 barrels, or 24,383,352 ons. The entire export from Philadel- for the same period was 700,891 bar- r 29,437,429 gallons. It will thus be at of the entire export of petroleum from Philadelphia during the year, was forwarded East *from Pittsburgh* over the Pennsylvania Railroad, excepting 120,335 barrels or 5,054,077 gallons.

Thus we come readily to know how much the Erie Railroad (which our contemporary says has opened up to Philadelphia the oil regions) carried and how much that Road is worth to have this connection. Taking the official figures of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for the amount transported over their main road, and the figures of export from Philadelphia, we find that the Erie Road conveyed to Philadelphia only 120,335 barrels, against 580,556 barrels over the Central Road from Pittsburgh.

Here, then, we see that Philadelphia's Venango oil trade is from Pittsburgh. That for what she does have she is indebted to the Central, is very true. But whether she has more reason to be thankful for what she has than complain for what escapes her and she might have, is a question we will proceed to examine;—and in doing this we shall settle how much right Philadelphia has to felicitate herself—as our contemporary seems to do—on having a monopoly of the Venango oil trade. This is very easily done by the following figures, showing the exports of Petroleum from Philadelphia and New York for the past six years:

	Philadelphia.	*New York.*
1862 . . .	2,809,978 galls.	6,720,373 galls.
1863 . . .	5,395,758 "	19,547,604 "
1864 . . .	7,760,148 "	21,335,784 "
1865 . . .	21,555,600 "	14,926,600 "
1866 . . .	28,811,855 "	34,501,385 "
1867 . . .	29,437,429 "	33,834,133 "

It will be seen that Philadelphia, so far from having a monopoly of the trade, has less than half. It is true that she has made a gradual gain, and bids fair, if nothing happens, to divide the trade with New York. And here we come to the important point around which the discussion revolves —what of the future, as affected by railroad competition or the want of it? Luckily here, too, we are not left in the dark any more than in regard to the other points we have gone over, and about which we trust our contemporary knows more than he appears to have known when he wrote the article to which we are applying.

The Pennsylvania Central in 1866 transported 193,069 *less* barrels of oil than in 1867, and should her present policy be continued, the amount must continue to fall off. For this there is the best of reasons—another route will take oil cheaper to New York, whither, as every intelligent oil man knows, the trade is tending, as the necessary consequence of the excessive cost of transportation from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. On this point, too, we beg to draw the attention of our Philapelphia contemporary to some additional facts, which are sworn to.

The Pennsylvania Legislature last year authorized the Judiciary Committee to examine alleged extortionate charges and injurious discriminations by the Railroad Companies of the State. This Committee did their work, and their report is before us. On page 166 we find the testimony of MR. DAVID KIRK, a well-known citizen of Pittsburgh, and from it we quote as follows; and the reader should bear in mind *that the Philadelphia oil trade is almost wholly from Pittsburgh*, and that that which is spoken of as going to Cleveland includes the New York trade. MR. KIRK said:

A. I am engaged in the oil trade—refining oil. We complain that we are charged the same rate from Oil City to Philadelphia, as from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia, thus compelling the refiners of Pittsburgh to pay freight from here to Oil City, which in many cases has been $1 00 a barrel. The refiners have thus been compelled to stop. The distance from here to Philadelphia is 355 miles; from Oil City to Philadelphia, 441. Another complaint is that they charge 40 cents per hundred less on crude than on refined oil, while refined is cleaner and there is less risk from fire; further, it is generally loaded at the refineries without expense to the railroad company. Crude is generally loaded by the railroad company themselves. The next point is that *the Pennsylvania Railroad charge a cruder rate per mile, per hundred pounds, on oil, than on any other article*. Q. *Other refiners in Cleveland get their oil to New York for $1 60 per barrel, when we are paying* $1 44. We pay 45 cents per hundred pounds to Philadelphia [a fixed distance]. Q. And that the road they charge all shippers? A. Yes sir—one uniform rate. Q. How long has it been uniform? A. The rate was put up on the first of October. It was 40 during the summer season. We have no complaints that there are special rates for particular persons. We complain that they rob us of their natural position, and that those at Cleveland get their oil carried cheaper than we do. In relation to the railroad committee of the Petroleum Association, which consists of the principal men in the trade here. Q. About what quantity of the article is shipped *from* this point per month? A. In August last I think it was 88,000 barrels. At that time the Pennsylvania road lowered their rate to about the proportion it should be, compared with the other roads. The other roads immediately lowered their rates, and the Pennsylvania Central remained the same, and the great proportion of the works in Pittsburgh had to shut down. Our route was relatively the longest route to the Eastern cities. We went to the officers of the Pennsylvania Railroad and complained of this. They lowered the rate at our solicitation. The others went down and the Pennsylvania Road remained. Q. Can you give the amount of shipments for other months? A. No, sir; those in August exceeded all others. I don't think the others would exceed 50,000 barrels. Q. What proportion of the oil produced at Oil City is refined at this point? A. There is a capacity, I think, of 6,000 barrels a day in Pittsburgh—refined oil. Q. You bring it down from Oil City by water? A. Yes, sir. Our great trouble has been that they take it from Oil City to Philadelphia or New York, as cheap as from here. If they had carried at the same rate per mile, or even one-half as cheap as half the other roads, we could have run and done business. They don't give us the advantages of others. Q. *Lombard, Vice President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, said to us that they did not care whether they carried a solitary barrel of oil or not—that they had enough other business without it.*

MR. H. M. LONG, also an intelligent oil dealer, testified, and from his testimony we extract the following, which we hope our Philadelphia contemporary will not fail to read in connection with what goes before and follows:

Our principal trouble has been the rate established by the Pennsylvania Railroad during the last year. The rate from Cleveland, our chief competition, to New York, was 45 cents per 100, while on the Pennsylvania road, from here to Philadelphia, was 50 cents a hundred. The freight from here to Chicago is now $1 00 per barrel on oil, and $1 57 from here to Philadelphia; distance, 496 miles to Chicago, Pittsburgh to Philadelphia 356 miles. They charge us 350 lbs. per barrel for our oil. I have not shipped a barrel or invoice this summer that will average 340 pounds, and yet they continue to do that, in the face of the evidence I have given them. These statements have been made to the Pennsylvania Railroad during the last three months. The rate from Oil City to Philadelphia, via the Warren and Franklin Road, and Philadelphia and Erie Road—controlled by the Pennsylvania Railroad —during the summer, was forty cents a hundred. Q. How far is that? A. 80 miles further than by this route. From Pittsburgh to Philadelphia it was 40 cents per hundred. It is evident that this advantage against us has driven trade from Pittsburgh to a great extent. *Oil was cheaper in Cleveland than we can make it here, and ship to Philadelphia*, thus cutting off one-third to one-half of the business in Pittsburgh. We have been to the office of the Pennsylvania road time and again on this subject. Lard oil and other goods similar to refined oil have been 50 cents a hundred during the summer, at the same time refined oil was 50 cents. We load all our own oil; we give them 200 barrels at a time, generally—50 to 60 barrels in a car. We load and unload our oil, thus doing away with the hire of elevating and handling. It costs one-third in addition to that—I speak for refiners who load their oil at the point—they provide no depot—dump our oil right into the mud. They formerly charged 2 cents a barrel for doing that, but now compel us to do it. Q. Leakage? A. Oil is a very great exhauster in open trucks, thus not only increasing the loss from leakage, but increasing the risk. They oblige us to insure. I believe that Pittsburgh could make and ship 100,000 barrels every month in bad weather. By the time the railroad pursues we cannot ship more than half that amount. This is the natural place to manufacture oil, and should be the natural point to refine it. We think Pittsburgh should have the benefit of its natural advantages, it being the nearest point to the sea board, and yet we are constantly compelled to pay more than anybody else. The freight is the same from Oil City, 145 miles further. We believe it is estimated that the oil men have paid the Pennsylvania Railroad between two and three millions dollars during the last year. An officer of the road said to one of our committee that they didn't care whether they carried any oil from Oil City; they preferred carrying it over the Philadelphia and Erie, ignoring the fact that twelve millions had been spent here to build up the corporation.

MR. LONG's testimony furnishes the reason why Philadelphia gets less than one-half of the oil trade,—the discriminating policy of the Central Company against the business, whereby it is driven to New York. But there is other testimony—the following by MR. B. W. MORGAN, another oil dealer, being, as we think, quite pertinent:

The rate is usually too high from here to Philadelphia. If they continue to carry oil over those northern roads, they will compel us to discontinue our business. These northern lines from Cleveland to New York have special rates, by which they get through for $1 40 to $1 25 from Cleveland to New York. It is 200 miles further by that route than from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. I have been to Philadelphia two or three times and talked to the officers of the Pennsylvania railroad. They all say they will protect us but never do it. Mr. Houston told us he would protect us, so that we could make this the manufacturing point for oil. We don't want to be tied down to one line. We load and unload the oil; they have no handling of it; they don't have to keep men to do that. Q. Have any other way to get your product to market except by the Pennsylvania Railroad? A. No sir. Baltimore, for our business, would be a much better port than Philadelphia, because we could get out there all seasons of the year. We want another road. Q. Is there business enough to sustain one? A. Yes sir. If they had not broken us down, we should have controlled the business here, whereas Cleveland has now as many factories as there are here. We have in the neighborhood of Pittsburgh fifty-eight oil works; I think we could turn out 28,000 to 30,000 barrels a week; Cleveland can manufacture an equal amount; two years ago they could not make more than 4,000 or 5,000. *By having those competing roads they have been able to build up.* We are compelled to put in a stock in the fall, because in the spring and summer the river goes down so low that Cleveland does not require to lay in stock to operate in business that we do. When the western roads throw in their stock on the Pennsylvania road, they have to put it through, having no place to keep it, and we have to stand idle. I understand Q. Mr. Lombard said he did not care whether they carried any oil or not. The Empire line takes it direct from the wells; any leakage is at their risk, whereas if we ship refined oil, which is not dangerous, they say it is at our risk.

If our contemporary does not by this time perceive how the Pennsylvania Central encourages and protects the oil trade of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and that what both cities need is railroad competition, we shall despair of enlightening him, unless the following additional testimony by MR. KIRK will suffice:

During the months of May and June we were paying the Pennsylvania Railroad $1 70 per barrel on oil from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. The Atlantic and Great Western was carrying oil at the same time from Cleveland to New York for $1 53 per barrel. Distance, from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia, 355 miles; Cleveland to New York, 629 miles. The Atlantic and Great Western was carrying oil then for 26 cents per barrel, each 100 miles, and Pennsylvania Central was charging 48 cents for each 100 miles, per barrel. Oil was carried from Oil City to Cleveland, thence to New York, a distance of 777 miles, for $2 08 per barrel; while the route by river and Pennsylvania Central, being 388 miles, was costing $2 30—22 cents against us for a little more than half the distance. The great bulk of the oil went to Cleveland, and the result is a large number of new establishments built there, and the oil trade has comparatively left Pittsburgh, while we have the shortest route and best natural location.

After devoting so much space to this part of the Philadelphia article, we have little left for an examination of the remaining portions. What is said of the trade of the West, and the perfect satisfaction that is expressed with the share our sister city is permitted to have in it over the Philadelphia and Erie road, which is as much as she has "any possible interest" in, or has "any chance whatever of obtaining," will provoke a smile. It would seem that the hope no longer exists that Philadelphia will share in the western trade over the Central, and the expression that "all we can do is to submit," is the sublimity of resignation. We might proceed to produce testimony as to the western trade, and the injurious policy of the Central Company towards Philadelphia in that connection, as overwhelming as that which we have adduced touching the oil trade. But this is unnecessary. All we have to say is, if it suits Philadelphia to be thus dealt by; if her Board of Trade—her merchants and her Press—are content to lie down under this state of things and witness her trade—compared with the annual growth of that of the whole country—dwindle, year after year; to have her manufacturing interests even laid under tribute, by the road her "own men" built,—if Philadelphia is satisfied with all this, nothing is more natural than the folding of arms that we see in the article that we have quoted, and the plea for a little more sheep, a little slumber, which our contemporary—as if annoyed because we disturbed it—has put forth. Although our suggestion—made in the kindest spirit—that Philadelphia and Pittsburgh should join their efforts to secure railroad competition, be rudely repelled; although that which would, anywhere else but in Philadelphia, be recognized as a wide-awake public spirit be treated with contempt, we shall nevertheless believe, for we have reason to believe, that in Philadelphia even another feeling prevails, and that there, though not perhaps to the extent it does elsewhere, exists a disposition to unite in a common effort in behalf of railroad competition.

The National Commercial Convention.

In the third day's proceedings of the National Commercial Convention at Boston, Mr. Bennett, of Pittsburgh, reported the following resolution from the Committee on Agriculture and Manufactures, which, after some discussion, was adopted:

Resolved, That the natural market of agriculture is the home market, and that all the interests of this great and growing country should be so arranged as to encourage and build it up; that the tariff laws the duties should be so adjusted as to keep the home market for the farmer and manufacturer, at the same time afford the greatest protection to domestic labor and production, by placing on the articles of which labor constitutes the greatest proportion of cost the highest duties, thus encouraging the investment of that labor instead of the completed fruits of his labor.

Mr. F. R. Brunot, of Pittsburgh, introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in any re-adjustment of the tariff laws specific duties be levied instead of ad valorem valuation in cases where *ad valorem* is deemed important, are necessary in order to secure to the Government its just dues, and to the industry of the country and to honest importers protection against the frauds which suffer in consequence of evasion and frauds upon the revenue.

Iron as a Building Material.

Prominent builders of New York are beginning to see that in substituting iron for wood in the erection and completion of buildings, they have not only an entirely durable structure, but one which is secure against loss by fire. It is estimated that had iron been generally employed instead of wood in finishing the interior of buildings in New York alone, during the last thirty years, the absolute saving to the wealth of that city would have amounted to hundreds of millions of dollars. Architects have become satisfied that not only are iron structures entirely secure, but that the material is adapted to an infinite variety of graceful and pleasing designs, and have accordingly directed their attention to the development of its capabilities. The interior work of the new dwelling house of A. T. Stewart on Fifth Avenue, New York, and that also for the extension of his Broadway and Fifth street store, will all be finished in iron.

Meteoric Showers.

Observations made at the National Observatory in Washington, give some curious information in regard to the shower of meteors, which occurred in November last. The brighter meteors appeared at a height of seventy-five miles above the earth, and were extinguished at a height of fifty-five miles. The average length of their path was twenty-two miles. During the thickest of the shower they were counted at the rate of three thousand per hour. Their velocity was forty-four miles per second. The thickness of the stream from North to South was sixty thousand miles; and it is estimated that there were forty thousand meteors to a lineal mile, or one meteor to every nine hundred thousand cubic miles of space. Professor Newcomb is of the opinion that Tuttle's comet of 1866, which these November meteors follow, is simply an agglomeration of meteoroids, with sufficient density to be visible in the solar rays; and he thinks that the same is true of the other telescopic comets.

The American Bible Society.

At a stated meeting of the American Bible Society, held in New York, five new auxiliaries were recognized; one each in Michigan, West Virginia, Kentucky, Texas, and in the Territory of Colorado. Communications were received from Monterey regarding the progress of the work in Northern Mexico; from London, concerning the revision of the Portuguese Bible, and in regard to making plates of the re-vovelled Old Testament in Arabic at Beirult; from Kolapoor, India, from Foochow, and from Yokohama, with interesting and gratifying statements as to prospects in Japan. Books to the number of 4,897 volumes have been given to the society, besides others to the value of $200. Alfred Hermen, Esq., of New Orleans, has given a rare and valuable collection of books to the library, amounting to eighty volumes.

THE CHEROKEE NATION.—Of the condition of affairs in the Cherokee Nation, the Fort Smith (Arkansas) *Herald* says: "The Cherokees are now determined to press the final settlement with the Government of their claims, which have been unsettled for years. The nation is now a unit, and old feuds have died away. Chief Downing says all is peace, and the Cherokees are doing better than they have been for many years past."

FEARFUL OF NOTICE TO QUIT.—England, it is said, is owned by thirty thousand men. The London *Star* has heard of a man who is uneasy in his mind, lest these thirty thousand, out of patience with strikes, disgusted with reform, worried by railroads and shocked at the increase of population, should one day combine and give the whole British nation notice to quit.

BOSTON COMMERCIAL CONVENTION.

The Resolutions as They Were Adopted.

The following were the resolutions which were adopted by the Boston Commercial Convention, on Saturday:

1. *Resolved*, That as the existing indebtedness of the nation and of individuals, and the unchangeable values of all property have been practically adjusted should not at present be any change in our contract thereof, but that the legal tender currency specie standard, by the funding thereof, on or after the 1st of January, 1869, in amounts not exceeding three millions of dollars per month.

2. *Resolved*, That the national honor and good faith alike require that the government should not avail itself of the right to pay off the five-twenty bonds called by a general redemption of specie payments, the public debt, as it matures, can be paid in specie or its equivalent.

3. *Resolved*, That the inequality in the distribution of the national bank currency between the different sections of the country requires some action on the part of Congress. Therefore

4. *Resolved*, That to this end, the following change in the national banking law may be recommended to Congress:

That any persons, proposing to form a new bank, may present to the Comptroller of Currency in National bank bills, of any banks having a circulation of more than sixty per cent. of the capital of such bank, which the comptroller may approve, and upon such deposit the comptroller shall cancel such bills and return to such bank a like amount for redemption, returning to such bank the bonds pledged as security, before accepting payment, or amount of bills shall have been cancelled to liberate the bonds, and thereupon, the persons presenting such bank bills shall be entitled, upon complying with and otherwise complying with the provisions of the law, to form a new bank, and receive from the Comptroller an issue of currency not exceeding sixty per cent. of the capital stock.

Provided, That no national bank currency shall be issued to any new bank in any State in which the amount of the circulation shall exceed the amount of the banks of such State shall bear a greater proportion to the five hundred millions of dollars than the representative population of such State shall bear to the representative population of the country; and,

Provided, further, That the aggregate amount of currency in the national banks shall in no case exceed three hundred millions of dollars, until such time as the banks shall have resumed specie payments.

5. *Resolved*, That a system of free national banking be established, allowing banks of issue to be payable and paid, on demand, in coin, and not before.

6. *Resolved*, That it be the duty of the financial agent of the United States to enact a law authorizing treasurer to be made in writing, which shall be payable in gold or silver coin, and securing the specific performance of such contracts.

7. *Resolved*, That the Congress of the United States should by law supercede the usury laws of the several States, and that no greater rate of interest than the uniform rate of interest when no contract has been made for any other rate, and authorizing contracts to be made by writing for the payment of any rate of interest upon which parties, able and competent to contract for not exceeding 12 per cent.

8. *Resolved*, That the bonds of the United States already issued, were exempted by law from taxation, and that the bonds hereafter issued, it would be a violation of the law of contract s to impose a tax upon the same, as well as a breach of faith on the part of the Government.

9. *Resolved*, That this Convention recommend to Congress to provide by law, that from this date no United States bonds shall be allowed to sell any part of the gold received from the Government as interest upon the bonds pledged for its circulation, until such time as the entire amount of the reserve required by law to be kept by the banks shall be made up of coin.

Mr. Brunot, of Pittsburgh, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this convention reaffirms unanimously the principle of the payment of the public debt in good faith, as indicated in the second resolution of the just adopted.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and three hearty cheers for the national honor were given.

Progress of Railway Consolidation.

In order to transport the products of the great West, and the cotton from the South, to the seaboard, it has been found necessary to consolidate comparatively short lines of railway, thus forming great through lines of traffic, which in the larger capital and more energy would offer greater facilities for business. The progress of the railway consolidation has been remarkable, and, judging by prices in the stock markets of those companies formed complete, the project is proving of great value to stockholders.

From New York, *via* Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, to Cheyenne, at the base of the Rocky Mountains, a distance of 1,917 miles, but three changes of cars are made, and five companies control the entire distance. Between New York and New Orleans, 1,500 miles, there are two different roads, while between New York and Charleston, only 788 miles, there are also two.

We give below a table showing the cost, length, (excluding branches leased), and cost per mile, of some of our largest roads:

Railroads.	Cost.	Length, including branches owned.	Cost per mile.
Pennsylvania.....$46,000,000		400	$115,000
New York Central.. 36,134,611		500	72,269
Pennsylvania.. 21,137,439		287	54,900
Ohio & Miss., Wes. 12,000,000		340	35,294
Chicago & Northw.. 43,234,929		800	54,040
Michigan Central.. 20,922,350		349	59,950
Illinois Central.. 31,473,297		708	58,396
Chicago & Ch. R.I.. 13,172,874		238	55,350

In the construction of the connecting railroad through Philadelphia, uniting the New Jersey roads with the Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore roads, the estimated cost of the seven miles is $2,000,000 —nearly $300,000 per mile.

Victims of Lotteries.

Almost every day furnishes new evidence to the people that lottery dealing leads to bankruptcy on the part of the infatuated devotee, and to much suffering and financial embarrassment many times to friends. Instances are multiplied where the most desirable positions in society, and the most responsible posts in the business world are sacrificed when the mania of lottery dealing seizes upon and deludes the victim. Louisville papers give particulars concerning the case of the first assistant teller in the United States Surveyor's office in that city who was arrested for embezzling $12,000. Three times since 1861, this man has been bankrupted. When he first began his operations he was conducting an excellent business in the fancy goods line, but was soon compelled to sacrifice his all to meet the demands of the lottery dealer. His friends paid his debts and again started him in business, but very soon he found himself penniless once more, and himself and family pensioners on their kindred. Again he was placed on his feet, but the passion for lottery dealing returned, with the humiliating result of an arrest as a thief. It seems that every cent of the money lately stolen ($12,000) and all that was previously lost by the defaulting teller was spent for lottery tickets. He never used a farthing of it for providing for his wife and children.

A CHECK ON OFFICIAL RASCALITY.—The New York State Legislature is now considering a plan by which the desperate rascality of the New York city officials will be checked, in the expenditure of the people's money. A panel of property owners, consisting of two hundred and fifty persons who pay taxes on more than $10,000 each, is to be made up by the Mayor, and from the number twenty-four are to be drawn by lot. The jury thus selected are to pass upon all estimates of public expenditures, and no money is to be raised by taxation, unless a levy for it is first approved by the tax jury.

Suffering in Tennessee.

Accounts from Tennessee report great destitution among the people of that State. A Nashville paper says that the associations in the North, who last winter were so profuse in supplying the wants of Southern negroes and refugees, are giving them scant comfort this winter. For the past ten days the Bureau at Nashville has been issuing cloth and clothing sent down from a benevolent Association in New York, to destitute whites and blacks, and every morning not less than three hundred men, women and children, surround headquarters, calling for aid. The Bureau is often impressed upon by ragged ladies that there are no means of knowing the really needy. The negroes in the country, many of them out of employment and in want, are adding their cry for aid, and the papers say that little can be done for the unfortunate sufferers.

Capital of West Virginia.

The Wheeling *Intelligencer* of yesterday says: The debate on the Capital question engrossed much of the time of the House of Delegates on Saturday. The bill locating the Capital at Buckhannon was passed to its third reading and comes up on its passage to-day. Thus far the bill has only required a majority of those present, or of a quorum, to bring it to its present stage, but now it requires a majority of the members elect. The excitement on Saturday in the various votes on the different substitutes was equal that of Friday before the first blank in the bill was filled; and we presume will be as great as ever to-day. It is thought that there are really no changes to be effected among those voting against the bill, we may be as far as ever from a finality in regard to the Capital question.

A PAPER recently read before the Statistical Society of London computes that the income of all classes of population of England, Ireland and Scotland is £821,379,00 per annum. The sum appears so enormous that we may well look into its distribution. It is estimated that the upper and middle classes, who have regular incomes, from some source or other, varying in amount from £100 to as many thousands, receive £496,000,000 of the whole, and the unions labor class £324,000,000. The number of people in the former class actually in receipt of incomes, and not dependent for their living upon others, is 2,750,000, and in the latter 10,962,000.

AN ACCOMMODATING POST OFFICE.—A fierce controversy has been going on for some time past between the citizens of a town in Massachusetts, relative to the plan and location of a post office. The leading paper now announces, with evident gratification, that the "great war" is ended; for a wealthy and public spirited citizen has offered to build a post office on wheels, and the post master has accepted the proposition, while a civil engineer is to keep him informed as to the exact centre of the village. The office will roll about from point to point as the town grows and the center changes.

THE NEW ORLEANS LEVEES.—We see by the New Orleans papers that the levees in that city are caving in to an alarming extent. From Clonet street down to the refinery, below the Convent, about one thousand feet of the outer edge of the levee and bulkheads have slipped into the river, and will need to be repaired before the next rise or that portion of the city will be overflowed. At the point opposite Clonet street the levee has sloughed off within six feet of the curbstone, and presents a threatening appearance.

PENNSYLVANIA FINANCES.

Racy Correspondence—Messrs. Rothschild & Son, August Belmont and the State Treasurer of Pennsylvania on the Payment of the State Stock in Currency.

The following correspondence explains itself:

NEW YORK, January 28, 1868.

To the Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania:

We have received from Messrs. N. M. Rothschild & Sons, of London, $190,886 10 Pennsylvania State five per cent. stock, which we send to Philadelphia for redemption, to be followed in a few days by a further lot of $100,000.

Besides these, Messrs. Rothschild hold about $200,000 more of stock already overdue and becoming due this year. These gentlemen again complain of the injustice of the action of the State of Pennsylvania, in forcing its creditors to accept payment in a depreciated currency, and have instructed us to receive payment only under protest, as heretofore.

They would, however, prefer to hold the stock, if an arrangement could be made with your State for a continuation of the loan, and will only accept payment now, if compelled to do so by a discontinuance of the interest. We have written to the Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank of Philadelphia to confer with you on this subject, before accepting payment, and we beg you will give this matter your serious consideration, and let us know whether an extension as desired by Messrs. Rothschild is possible. Hoping soon to hear from you, we remain yours, respectfully,

AUGUST BELMONT & Co.

HARRISBURG, January 30, 1868.

Messrs. August Belmont & Co., New York—

GENTLEMEN:—In reply to your note of the 28th, I beg to say that no arrangement can be made by which the Messrs. Rothschild can retain the old loan (now overdue) and continue to draw interest on it.

You state that should no arrangement be made you will be compelled to accept payment under protest. To this we have not the slightest objection. Your complaints about the injustice of our not paying you in gold may seem just to you, but to us they seem ridiculous.

I have no doubt Messrs. August Belmont & Co. had many liabilities out, when the legal tender act was passed, which became due after gold had risen to a premium of eighty. I have not yet heard of their conscience compelling them to pay in gold instead of the legal tender. We are willing to give you the pound of flesh, but not one drop of Christian blood.

Respectfully,

W. H. KEMBLE, State Treasurer.

NEW YORK, February 4, 1868.

SIR—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ult., addressed to my self and Messrs. Rothschild & Sons, of London, who had instructed us to receive payment of the Pennsylvania State stock now due, under protest in case the State should not pay the principal in coin, and in case no arrangement could be effected having in view a continuation of the interest and an extension of the time of redemption of the capital.

Messrs. Rothschild act in this matter as trustees of the holders of the debentures of the late United States Bank of Pennsylvania, residing in England and on the Continent of Europe. You seem so well acquainted with the financial instructions of States and individuals that you must know that by these debentures hundreds of widows and orphans have been reduced to beggary.

Messrs. Rothschild, in trying to save for their constituents what they can out of the wreck, have made through my house an application, which they as well as I deem just and equitable, and this application was made in a courteous and respectful manner. In so doing Messrs. Rothschild have evinced a new proof, if any was wanted, of their strict and honorable appreciation of the obligations assumed by them as trustees for the innocent holders by their bonds, a negotiation based principally upon the faith of the State of Pennsylvania and its great banking institution.

Your reference to the liabilities of my house, contracted in coin and assumed by you to have been in currency, is as important as it is untrue in point of fact. August Belmont & Co. have never declined to meet any demand for the payment in coin of any liability contracted by them in coin, before or since the legal tender act.

If they had adopted the course towards their creditors which you propose to take on behalf of the State of Pennsylvania towards her unfortunate creditors represented by Messrs. Rothschild, there might have been some excuse for the lack of courtesy which you have exhibited in your letter to them.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to express my regret that the State of Pennsylvania should have for its Treasurer a person who could so far disgrace the State he assumes to represent, and forget the dignity of the office he holds, as to reply to a civil business communication in a manner to make me raise the blush of shame on the cheek of every citizen of that great and honored State.

I am your obedient servant,

AUGUST BELMONT.

WILLIAM H. KEMBLE, Esq., State Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg.

PERSONAL.

—Apropos of the Harpers, (says a N. Y. letter,) which has just brought out Motley's History of the Netherlands. I learn that the house has paid that industrious and patient author more than a hundred thousand dollars as his share of the profits on his books already sold. That they will pay him twice that sum before the Legislature of New York allow a portion of the author of the classical dictionary, and many text books used in schools and colleges, receives from forty to fifty thousand dollars a year from the sale of his works, which cost him nothing to do, nor do we desire to have anything, inasmuch as it would be a tax on our people to support their work paper district.

—A lady correspondent, speaking of Mr. Sumner's lecture at Clinton, Mich., says: "Mr. Sumner at first appeared to be tired, and also to be suffering from a cold. And those beautiful hands—of which I had read so much—seemed restless and away from home, until the left one turned up and fondled the watch in the vest pocket, when, apparently, there gathered about it a spirit of rest. Then, too, those clustering curls over the left temple—how I wished some one would ask him to put them farther away, that I might see the noble brow in front of our his head. Of his vast knowledge—its grand intellect—his strong, lucid

The Daily Commercial

THE LITTLE WANDERERS.

Stern Realities of Life Among the Lowly.

A little boy of six years, while walking down Walnut street, in Philadelphia, saw a poor emaciated woman holding in her arms a small sickly looking babe. Many passed by, and she held out her thin, bony, wan hand for aid; but no one spoke a kind word or gave even a mite to the wandering, perhaps homeless woman.

The sight was too much for this tender hearted little boy, and turning to his mother, with tears in his eyes, he said: "Oh, I wish there was no such sinners in the world, who would pass by the poor and give them nothing, and I do wish I had one cent to put into that woman's hand."

In the city of New York a poor widow was struggling with extreme want. Although in the last stages of consumption, she still worked on until it was impossible for her to work longer.

Her little daughter had become pale and thin, for want of food, and her little naked feet had become so frozen by going from door to door, in the cold, bleak month of March, that they were badly inflamed and cracked open. At last the time of parting came, and I will leave the pen of the Rev. Mr. Van Meter, who has the charge of the Wanderers' Home, in New York, to describe that mother's farewell to her only child:

"A pale, sad, poor woman came into the office with a bright little girl, whose sweet face showed anxiety about something undefined, yet that pained her young heart. A severe fit of coughing told that consumption would soon add another to the list of homeless orphans.

"'I am from Scotland. My husband is dead. All I have is in the pawn shop. To-morrow I go to the Bellevue Hospital to die. I cannot die and leave my child in the poor house. Will you take her and put her with those who will bring her up in the fear of the Lord?' 'Yes, I will do for her what I would ask another to do for my child under similar circumstances.' I could not talk much to her, for words, even of tenderest sympathy, must not meddle with her sorrow. It was to be the last sight of her child—a living funeral. I saw the parting tears, the last embrace, the parting kiss, the last struggle, and then received into my arms the little one, and the mother turned to the hospital and in a few weeks slept in a pauper's grave."

Whose heart would not be melted by such a scene?

Who, had they seen that little wanderer then, would not have gladly provided shoes and stockings for those tender, little, naked feet, and food for that thin wasted body. But you need not help her now, for God has provided her a home.

That little girl who was wandering, alone and forsaken, in the streets of New York, and that tender-hearted boy, who wished he had one cent to give to that beggar woman and her child, are now brother and sister.

The foster father of that dear little wanderer has gone to his eternal home. But who can doubt that long since the real and the adopted parents have held sweet communion together over the little one they have left behind in this world of sin and sorrow?

This tale of suffering has been told, dear reader, to stir the sympathies of your inmost soul for the poor and destitute; for in your very midst are thousands you pass by every day, and almost every hour, unnoticed, or with a feeling of disgust at their filth and dirt. And yet beneath those old rags and those rough caskets you see not the immortal jewels for which Jesus left His throne in glory and suffered and died.

Forget not that the day of judgment is coming, when you will have to give account.

Jesus will either say to you:

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

35. For I was a hungered, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in.

36. Naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

For, "inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Or the bitter judgment of the stern judge will ring in your ears:

"Depart from me."

42. For I was a hungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty and ye gave me no drink.

43. I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

For inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Be sure that God is not mocked, for whatsoever you sow here you will reap hereafter.

Remember by their fruits and by their works ye shall know them.

Do not think because you are a member of Christ's fold that you are sure of heaven.

Judas was one of the twelve. Peter denied his Lord and had to repent with bitter tears. How can we believe our hearts are right if we love not Christ's little ones? He has promised a blessing for those who care for the poor; but none, for those who forsake, and neglect them.

The whole of the 41st Psalm, beginning; "Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble," is a tender, loving pledge for good to those who care for the poor.

And how can we if the love of Jesus fills our hearts, look upon the immortal souls around us, and not try to save them from the fearful maelstrom of degradation, into which they are being drawn.

It is not for want of money that the poor are suffering; or for want of room and means of grace that souls are going down to eternal death.

Our churches are far from being full, and in the homes of our wealthy and moderate livers, is "enough and to spare."

How is the work to be done—how gather in from the highways and hedges the wandering ones? How carry to the homes of the destitute the offerings of the rich?

We would advise—having had not a little experience in caring for the poor—that you should never give to any beggar, man, woman or child, at the door, in the shop, or in the street. If you do, you are sure to encourage beggary, or to give to impostors; for the truly worthy poor are not the bold ones, but the shrinking, timid ones who are passed by unnoticed.

Have in your house, or on your person a book; question and cross-question the beggar, as to the cause of his poverty and his present necessities. Take down their name and their place of residence. If it is a child, try and find out if the father or mother drink; if they are unkind or indolent. In every instance where you find the parents are of this class, try to get them into some house for the wandering and friendless, or find some person who will either adopt them, or take the care of their education. If possible, always gather them into the Sunday school and church.

Supposing you try to gather in fifty children from these destitute and desolate homes and only rescue one. Be not discouraged, for the good you have done cannot be estimated.

Strive to have your crown full of these little immortal jewels, and not be willing to receive a starless one.

But, dear reader, if you have not secured an interest in Jesus, and are yourself, although morally good, yet spiritually unprepared for death; if your business has so taken up your heart's affection that you have forgotten the preparation which you must individually make or eternally finish; or if worldly pleasures and allurements have bathed your souls in their sweet waters, until the stern realities of life and death you dare not look at. Then first make your peace with your crucified Savior and you will be ready to work for His poor—to spend and be spent in his service.

I have wandered from my subject and must return.

After inquiring of the beggar his condition, I would ask them also for some references. No person who is worthy will be unable to give them; for some one will know about them, and be able to speak a kind word for them. Our experience in caring for the poor in Boston and Philadelphia, has taught us that those beggars who tell the best story are impostors, and that those who refuse to give their address or say they have forgotten the number, evade, quibble, or in any way refuse to give references of their place of residence, are unworthy and impostors.

But because so many are unworthy, we should not overlook the truly needy.

After making the most careful inquiries, if you cannot visit them at once, and have no friend to do so for you, send their names and such facts as you have been able to ascertain to some city missionary or some association whose object is to care for those suffering, degraded ones. It would be well, however, to have made some previous arrangements with such person or association to regard your notes with reference to the poor. There is no excuse for anyone, in any way, to neglect the poor; we can all do something.

Examine with great care your house, your wardrobe and your place of business; make sure that nothing is laid aside as worthless, which can be used for the poor. Cast off garments of every kind, size and description, even your old shoes and stockings, and your rolls of pieces will be a blessing to the poor.

These remarks, dear reader, refer to you individually. I pray you heed them.

The articles given as far as possible should be mended and put in good condition; for the very poor often lack time, or what is oftener the case, tact to fit up and mend what is given them.

Articles used about the sick should always be purified before giving them away.

We would that on the next Sabbath the appeal could go forth from every pulpit in our cities, to have brought in by the church and congregation every article that could be spared from their homes, and let the ladies meet and repair them, and have them at once distributed among the suffering and destitute.

The Young Men's Christian Association could do great good by having every member and their friends, bring into their rooms their cast-off garments, and have a committee appointed to see that they were properly distributed.

This indiscriminate giving should no longer be indulged in. Men should give and give freely; but our benevolence should be a matter of justice, conscience, duty and love.

I have only spoken of giving our cast-off garments and such things as were of no absolute worth to us. But I would also add that we should give largely of our money to those associations which are working for the souls and bodies of the poor, and outcast. If we have the means and do not give, and through our neglect a single soul is lost, the blood of that soul will be required at our hands and found upon our garments.

And, "Know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."

Then, Christian,

"Go labor on; spend and be spent;
Thy joy to do the Father's will;
It is the way the Master went;
Should not the servant tread it still?"

M. S. E.

Professor Huxley's Hidden Chess-Player.

(From the London Spectator.)

Professor Huxley has told the workingmen of South London, in a very fine passage of his most masculine English, what seems to him the highest meaning of education. It is such a mastery of the laws of the game which is always being played between the individual man or woman and an unseen player who plays the phenomena of the universe on fixed and more or less accessible rules, as will enable the human players to carry on the longest game with the most brilliant success. But we must not spoil by summarizing a passage which deserves to live in English literature both for its vigor of style and the admirable, almost grand expression it gives to a particular creed which is gaining rapidly upon us, in spite of the desolation of its summit, in spite of the stern, almost solemn, neglect with which it passes by our highest life:

"Suppose it were perfectly certain that the life and fortune of every one of us would one day or other depend upon his winning or losing a game of chess. Don't you think that we should all consider it to be a primary duty to learn at least the names and the moves of the pieces; to have a notion of a gambit and a keen eye for all the means of giving and getting out of check? Do you not think that we should look with a disapprobation amounting to scorn upon the father who allowed his son, or the State which allowed its members, to grow up without having a game from a knight? Now, it is a very plain and elementary truth that the life, the fortune, and the happiness of every one of us, and, more or less, of those who are connected with us, do depend upon our knowing something of the rules of a game infinitely more difficult and complicated than chess! It is a game which has been played for untold ages, every man and woman of us being one of the two players in a game of his or her own. The chess board is the world, the pieces the phenomena of the universe, the rules of the game are what we call the laws of nature. The player on the other side is hidden from us. All we know is that his play is always fair, just and patient. But, also, that he never overlooks a mistake or makes the smallest allowance for ignorance. To the man who plays well, the highest stakes are paid with that sort of overflowing generosity with which the strong shows delight in strength. And one who plays ill is checkmated without haste, but without remorse. My metaphor will remind some of you of the famous picture in which Retzch has depicted Satan playing at chess with man for his soul. Substitute for the mocking fiend in that picture a calm, strong angel, who is playing for love, as we say, and would rather lose than win, and I should accept it as an image of human life. Well, now, what I mean by an education is learning the rules of this mighty game. In other words, education is the instruction of the intellect in the laws of nature, and the fashioning of the affections and of the will into harmony with those laws."

The Hebrews.

This people have produced some of the noblest representatives of the human race. Poetry, music, art, politics, commerce and finance have been adorned by Hebrew genius and intellect. And to the labors of the apostolic college is Christianity indebted for the early propagation of the glad tidings of salvation. No tyranny, no oppression, no persecution, nor the rack nor the sword have been sufficiently potent to put out the light which they have shed upon the nations. They are emphatically a peculiar people. Civilization is indebted to them for the invention of paper credit, as far back as the year 1160; and throughout Western Europe they introduced the system of bills of exchange, and dared to make a business giving credit. They likewise established the first banks in Europe—those at Venice, Geneva, Barcelona and Genoa. European cabinets have called to their aid Hebrew talent, and thus given evidence of their abandonment of the stupid prejudice which ignorance engendered in the darker times. In America to-day for the first time in her history, Herr Winterstein, a Hebrew of the Hebrews, sits, a Minister of the realm, among her high public functionaries. This representative man of Israel is President of the Viennese Chamber of Commerce; and thus, under the reign of Franz Joseph and his Premier, Von Beust, sense and toleration begin to shine upon the bright front of Oesterreich.

There is no city of any pretensions, prominence or personal activity which does not contain the indomitable Hebrew element. If so, it forms an exception to the rule.

The Struggle for Health.

In our civilized, sedentary life, he who would have good health must fight for it. Many people have the insolence to become parents who have no right to aspire to that dignity; children are born who have no right to exist, and skill preserves many whom Nature is eager to destroy. Civilized man, too, has learned the trick of heading off some of the diseases that used to sweep over whole regions of the earth, and lay low the weakliest tenth of the population. Consequently, while the average duration of human life has been increased, the average tone of human health has been lowered. Fewer die, and fewer are quite well. Very many of us breathe ventilated air, and keep nine-tenths of the body quiescent for twenty-two or twenty-three hours out of every twenty-four. Immense numbers cherish gloomy, depressing opinions, and convert the day set apart for rest and recreation into one which aggravates some of the worst tendencies of the week, and counteracts none of them. Half the population of the United States violate the law of nature every time they take sustenance; and the children go, ensnared with indigestion, to sit six hours in hot, ill-ventilated or unventilated school rooms. Except in a few large towns, the bread and meat are almost universally inferior or bad; $72,000,000 on the first 7,500 miles of the lines, including Loans secured by a First Mortgage upon the whole property, to the same amount only as the U. S. Subsidy Bonds.

The results already attained, although under comparatively unfavorable circumstances, afford substantial ground for believing the CENTRAL PACIFIC to be the

Most Favored, Productive and Valuable Railroad Enterprise in the Country.

In consequence of the large and rapidly increasing demand, the price of these Bonds has been advanced, and they will only be now offering for sale, a limited amount of their

First Mortgage Six Per Cent. Bonds.

Principal and Interest Payable in Gold Coin, in sums of $1,000 each, at par and accrued interest from January 1st, in

These Bonds, it is believed, possess the elements of *safety, reliability and profit*, in a greater degree, than any other class of Corporate Securities now offered, and are therefore very desirable for steady Investments of capital.

Investors will bear in mind the following advantages:

I. They are the first mortgage on one of the most valuable and productive lines of railroad in the world.

II. The actual earnings from local business in 1867 were more than four times the annual interest engagements.

III. The hard part of the work is now done, and the prospect of rapid completion are favorable.

IV. The company have liberal subsidies, which enable them to prosecute the work with great vigor.

V. The management has been exceedingly prudent and frugal.

VI. There is already a large and growing settlement on the completed and graded line.

VII. The land promises to be of immense value, 37,038 acres having been already sold.

VIII. Both principal and interest are explicitly made payable in gold coin.

IX. Both the aggregate amount of issue and their standing in Europe will insure for them continued activity and a high rank among standard securities.

At this time they yield nearly

Nine per Cent. upon the Investment.

Holders of Government Securities have an opportunity of exchanging them for Central Pacific Bonds, bearing an equa. rate of interest, with the principal abundantly secured, and of realizing a profit of from ten to fifteen per cent, in addition.

Orders sent with the funds through responsible Banking Houses will receive prompt and careful attention. Bonds sent by return Express, to any address in the United States, at our cost. Information Descriptive Pamphlets, Maps, &c., furnished on application at the office of the Railroad Company,

No. 54 WILLIAM STREET,

AND OF

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Bankers and Dealers in Government Securities,

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AND OF

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HUSBAND'S MAGNESIA.

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☞ METCALFE'S HONEY COUGH BALM is fast becoming the Standard medicine of the age. The smallness of the dose, its palatable taste and immediate effect rendering it superior to any of the obnoxious remedies of our grandmothers. For sale by all Druggists.

☞ HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Pleurisy.—Do you wish to curtail your medical expenses and retain sound health? Use these medicines—they are adapted to every disease—for all inflammatory affections of the chest, as Pleurisy, Asthma, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds, &c. The unanimous properties of the Ointment have never been questioned by all who have used it—the Pills materially expedite the operation of the Ointment. Sold by all Druggists.

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HAVE CERTAINLY REACHED

Bottom Prices.

McCALLUM BROS.,

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Oil Cloths,

Of Every Grade, and decidedly the Largest Stock in any House in the City.

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Agents for Webb's Chocolates and Pearce's celebrated Philadelphia Crackers.

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☞ Be careful to Buy Only the Genuine. Scales Repaired Promptly.

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Black or White Enameled, Square or Round, at RISELL & CO.'S,
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A FULL LINE OF

CASSIMERES,
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OF REAL LACES.

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JUST RECEIVED.

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This Lot for Elegance and Variety surpassing any previous importation.

BERTHAS,
BARBES,
COIFFURES,
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COLLARS, &c., &c.

PRICES REMARKABLY LOW.

☞ Ladies should not delay their selection till the stock becomes broken.

MACRUM & CARLISLE,

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A FULL ASSORTMENT OF

BONNETS, HATS,
RIBBONS,

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Having the above advantages, are offered to the Public. They are a success to Simplicity of Construction, Ease of Management, Good Appearance, Economy in Fuel, and give a Brilliant Hot Fire. Show no Ashes. Make no Dust. No extra Fender is needed. Price reasonable. Agents are wanted. County or State Rights for sale. Examine one in operation at our Office, Second Floor of No. 89 WOOD STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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FINANCIAL.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

HARRISBURG, December 18, 1867.

NOTICE

TO THE

HOLDERS OF THE

LOANS

OF THE

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

DUE JULY 1st, 1868.

THE FOLLOWING

LOANS,

DUE JULY 1st, 1868,

WILL BE REDEEMED WITH INTEREST TO DATE OF PAYMENT ON PRESENTATION AT THE

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK,

OF

PHILADELPHIA!

VIZ:

LOAN OF MARCH 27, 1839; DUE JULY 1, 1868.

LOAN OF JULY 19 1839, DUE JULY 1, 1868.

Interest on the above Loans will cease on the 1st OF JULY, 1868.

FRANCIS JORDAN,

SECRETARY OF STATE.

JOHN F. HARTRANFT,

AUDITOR GENERAL.

W. H. KEMBLE,

STATE TREASURER.

cod *COMMISSIONERS OF SINKING FUND.*

Price Advanced--Par and Interest.

The Central Pacific R. R.,

The Best and Principal Portion of the

NATIONAL TRUNK LINE ACROSS THE CONTINENT,

Is being rapidly carried forward by an unprecedented working force, and it is reasonably certain that the *continuous line of Railroad and Telegraph connecting New York & San Francisco will be made in* 1870.

The United States Government furnishes, upon a subordinate and contingent lien, half the means for constructing the Main Section of the Line, and besides an absolute grant of 12,800 acres of valuable public lands per mile, the Central Pacific Railroad Company have received from California sources, donations and concessions worth more than $3,000,000. The available resources of this Company are therefore abundant for the purpose, amounting to $72,000,000 on the first 750 miles of the Line, including Loans secured by a First Mortgage upon the whole property, to the same amount only as the U. S. Subsidy Bonds.

The results already attained, although under comparatively unfavorable circumstances, afford substantial ground for believing the CENTRAL PACIFIC to be the

Most Favored, Productive and Valuable Railroad Enterprise in the Country.

In consequence of the large and rapidly increasing demand, the price of these Bonds has been advanced, and they will only be now offering for sale, a limited amount of their

First Mortgage Six Per Cent. Bonds.

Principal and Interest Payable in Gold Coin, in sums of $1,000 each, at par and accrued interest from January 1st, in

These Bonds, it is believed, possess the elements of *safety, reliability and profit*, in a greater degree, than any other class of Corporate Securities now offered, and are therefore very desirable for steady Investments of capital.

Investors will bear in mind the following advantages:

I. They are the first mortgage on one of the most valuable and productive lines of railroad in the world.

II. The actual earnings from local business in 1867 were more than four times the annual interest engagements.

III. The hard part of the work is now done, and the prospect of rapid completion are favorable.

IV. The company have liberal subsidies, which enable them to prosecute the work with great vigor.

V. The management has been exceedingly prudent and frugal.

VI. There is already a large and growing settlement on the completed and graded line.

VII. The land promises to be of immense value, 37,038 acres having been already sold.

VIII. Both principal and interest are explicitly made payable in gold coin.

IX. Both the aggregate amount of issue and their standing in Europe will insure for them continued activity and a high rank among standard securities.

At this time they yield nearly

Nine per Cent. upon the Investment.

Holders of Government Securities have an opportunity of exchanging them for Central Pacific Bonds, bearing an equa. rate of interest, with the principal abundantly secured, and of realizing a profit of from ten to fifteen per cent, in addition.

Orders sent with the funds through responsible Banking Houses will receive prompt and careful attention. Bonds sent by return Express, to any address in the United States, at our cost. Information Descriptive Pamphlets, Maps, &c., furnished on application at the office of the Railroad Company,

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This Machine takes the clay direct from the bank, (without the preparation, by soaking, necessary for "soft mud" machines), and tempers it thoroughly, grinding, in steel moulds, brick of enough to be packed up edgewise high in the yard as made. For cutting with the trowel, bearing hard usage, and making a strong, true wall, there are no better brick known. The cost of making them by this machine is from 90 cents to $1.10 per 1,000, according to the rates of wages. This we guarantee. The machine is built entirely of iron and steel, and in the best style for strength and permanent use in working clay. Apply for circulars, giving full information, at the office,

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JOHN H. BOYTS & CO.,

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The Daily Commercial

CITY COUNCILS.

An adjourned meeting of the Select and Common Councils of the city was held on Tuesday afternoon, February 11, 1868.

SELECT COUNCIL.

JAMES McAULEY, - - - - *President.*
E. S. MORROW, - - - - *Clerk.*

The CLERK called the roll, when the following members answered as present: Messrs. W. R. Brown, A. M. Brown, Cochrane, Coffin, Coyle, Dickson, Dunn, Gallaher, Groom, Jones, Kehew, Lanfman, McClelland, McEwen, McKibben, Ogden, Phillips, Rafferty, Shipton, Tanner, Wainwright, White and President McAuley.

The CLERK read the minutes of the session of February 4, which were approved.

PETITIONS, DEMONSTRANCES, ETC.

The CHAIR read a remonstrance of the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh Trustees of the, against granting the right of way to street, against granting the right of way to street, against granting the right of way to street